

The blood of righteous ABEL,

Crying from the ground, being a lamentation for, and a warning too, all that have a hand against the innocent people of God, especially intended for the Rulers and Priests in *Hampshire*, who have hardened their hearts against the day of slaughter, wherein they shall feel *Cains* punishment which he was not able to bear, who have been often warned by the servants of the Lord, yet have they not done that which is just in his sight, but have imprisoned several of his servants this many months, without just cause, and doth increase their bondage upon us, where 9 of us are kept close prisoners, in an unwholesome stinking hoale, nor fit for beasts, whose cry is not nicely gone through the Nation, but is also entred into the ears of the Lord God of rest, who will plead our cause in righteousness.

Also the decree of the Lord sealed and made manifest to his servant, that all the plottings, snares and persecutions, which the powers of the earth and darkness, and the gates of hell, can invent and rise up with, shall never prevail against his power, that is now brake forth and made manifest, in his dear children, who in scorn are called Quakers.

By W. B.

MY heart within me is broken because of the false Prophets & persecuting rulers, who are found fighting against the Lamb of God and his followers. Alas, alas! woe is me because of the gallery that is coming upon you, my heart is filled with sorrow, and mine eyes with tears, and my bowels are turned within me, to consider the day of your desolation and destruction, which is coming upon you, from the Almighty God of heaven and earth: Oh what shall be done for you, ye hard hearted and rebellious children, who shall imprecate for you, or take pity on you in the day of your calamity, which is coming as a whirlwind of terror, and you shall not escape, and woe be to him that strive with his maker: do you think to stop or limit the mighty power of the Creator of heaven & earth, which is now broke forth and made manifest in his dear children, (who have waited for him in the way of judgement,) by your false and malicious persecutions, and by your false accusations and wicked enflamers and unrighteous decrees and laws, say you shall never prevail nor prosper in these your intents, your vain hopes will perish, and your contrivances will be kept with you into the bottomless pit, from whence you cannot rise, and no weapon that is formed against us, (who love not our lives for the son of Gods sake unto the death)

shall ever prosper, and yet to his rebellious children shall give counsel but not of me, and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit saith the Lord.

Is your counsell, plottings and persecution to hinder the powerful work of the Lord, which he hath begun among the children of men, and hath blessed and will bless, and to fire people from embracing the precious truth (which is the everlasting foundation of God) without which all men will be found miserable in their latter end, is this your end, and to keep up your earthly honour, deceit and flattering titles, and vain glory, which will wither and be laid in the dust, and to satisfy the pride of life, which is not of the father but of the world: Is this your end, for fear of losing these things that puffs up the fleshly mind out of Gods fear, and that wars against your souls, for which you persecute, imprison, and draw before the judgement seats, and make a prey and a spoyle of a harmless and innocent people, whose glory and kingdom, and peace is not of the world, but follows the lamb that was slain whither soever he goeth; if this be your end, (and to keep off the trouble and torment that is coming upon you, by reason of your wickedness and rebellion against the Lord) you will miss of it, and your expectation will perish, and do you think to avenge your selves on his dear children, and get ease by afflicting them, and grieving them, and tormenting them with your plottings and snares of inhumane cruelty, is this your way? is the time that was spoken of, come to be fulfilled upon you? that whosoever killeth us (who are the followers of Christ) shall think he doth God service, and will not their vain thoughts deceive them, who are found in the envy against the meek spirit, that is come to judge the world, and do not they rise up against the Lord of life, who rise up against him that is meek and lowly: surely this is a wrong way you have entred into, the way of the ungodly which will perish, and not the way to peace, for in these things you heap up wrath to your selves against the day of wrath, and revelation of the righteous judgements of God, in this way you shall never prosper nor prevail, the Lord God hath spoken it.

For this is the way of the wicked, which is as darkness (where the stumbling is) and leads into the chambers of death and destruction, this is the sword of the wicked which you have drawn, it shall enter into your own bowels, and if you thirst for our blood, you may have it to drink, for a body is prepared, and we fear not him that is able onely to kill it, but the Lord our God alone, he is our fear, and he is our dread, and our refuge in time of trouble, who is taking vengeance on you unawares, in a way you know not, nor will you believe though a man declare it unto you, for did you believe it, and were the eye open to see these things, you would fear and dread and tremble at the presence of the pure powerful God, whose swift witnes is coming upon you as a thief in the night, and will wound your hairy scalp, who proceed in your wickedness, and will smite the head of his enemies, and strike through Kings in the day of his wrath, whose fury you cannot escape, and all your high mountains by him will be overthrown, who think to rule and reign over the meek of the earth, by your light of pride and cruelty: alas for you! ye tall Cedars, a fierce wind from the Lord God shall smite you; the axe is laid to your root, and you will be hewn down for the fire, ye raging waves of the sea, you come out your own shame, and cast up mire and dirt, our King (that rides meekly) is on the top of you all, and on your head doth he trample, and he will turn this storme to his own praise and glory, and to your utter confusion who rebel against him.

Christ Jesus the light of the world, the man of sorrows, who seek not honour from men, whom you despise, against whom you are risen up and have turned your sword, he is our King, here this ye rebels, ye traitors, the Lord God will stain the pride of your glory, and lay your earthly honour in the dust, and bring you into contempt, who are seeking honour and glory to your selves in the earth, whose peace is your life, who

love

love the praise of men, and you are more than God; I am coming upon you all, and you are for the slaughter of the great King who is our lawgiver, and Saviour, and our peace, who is come a light into the world, and is the true light that lighteneth every man that cometh into the world, meek and lowly upon the wild asses coale; hear this ye deaf, and see ye blind, and be still and hearken; ye clouds of ungodly men who compass the Saints about and the beloved city, with lies and plottings of falsehood, whereby you think to weary out the dear children of the most high; fire is coming down from God out of heaven to devour you, and you shall not be able to quench it, ye are the pricking briars to the house of Israel, ye are the thorns, the dross, and the stubble, the Lord God Almighty of power, will you consume the decree is sealed against you, a witness I am for the eternal God of life against you all, in all your deeds of darkness, and hard speeches; my outward life is not deer unto me, ye devouring beasts of the field, I have given it up, and you may take it, for he that departeth from iniquity is become your prey.

But the Lord God will plead our cause in righteousness, and his eternal witness (the light in your consciences) will answer your condemnation to be just, and your destruction to be of your selves; for you have been warned from time to time, by the servants of the Lord without you, and reproved by the light, his true prophet within you; that you might escape & flee from the wrath to come, which if you proceed in the hardness of your hearts, in afflicting his dear children, it will overtake you: and because of these things, my soul is moved, knowing the terrors of the Lord against you, and a doleful lamentation is on me, and my very bones are pained, and my heart is hot within me, the whole earth is moved with the fierce indignation of the Lord, his vengeance plagues, and eternal judgements (without mercy) do I proclaim against you all, from the mouth of the Lord God of hosts, except you speedily repent; for you have grieved his spirit, and you have afflicted his dear children these many months, yet have you been irritated by them with many tears, and often warned, and the Lord have we even intreated for you, as *Abraham* did for *Sodom*, & *Moses* for *Pharaoh*, that you might not wholly be condemned, with an utter overthrow, but rather that you might repent and live; but our righteous souls are vexed and grieved with your pride, rebellion, and filthy conversation from day to day, and no answer from the Lord have we concerning you, but the red sea of his wrath wherein you will be utterly swallowed and drowned, and not one will be left, and fire from heaven as snares upon you, will be rained; for every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit, shall be hewn down and cast into the fire, and every plant which my heavenly father hath not planted shall be rooted up. Consider this ye that forget God, ye that forget mercy, whose bowels are shut up, whose hearts are hardened, from his righteous dreadful fear, lest he tear you in pieces, and there be none to deliver you, for our God is a consuming fire, and is terrible to the heathen that know him not, whose fire is in *Sion*, and his furnace in *Jerusalem*, and from thence our deliverer comes, who turns away ungodliness from *Jacob*.

But is not envy, persecution, and oppression, ungodliness, and wrath, pride, and injustice, are not these things ungodliness and unrighteousness? consider and weigh it in the even balance the light in your consciences, to which I speak, which will answer the truth without covering, and is my witness in you all, for the Lord God, and heareth my voice, therefore stop not the ear, lest you are shut out for ever; then shall you cry but he will not hear you; and is not the wrath of God to be revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, or is envy, pride, cruelty, oppression, tyranny, and persecution, and laying snares for the innocent and harmless without cause, is this good fruit, or the fruit of the spirit of God, (who among the saints in these things is your example,) or doth the heavenly plant bring forth such fruit, nay verily will

Gods wancis anſwer me, and are any the ſons and children of God, but who are joynd to the heavenly plant, or led by his ſpirit, which guides unto all truth, (out of unrighteouſneſſe) into ſoberneſſe, quietneſſe, love, peace, patience, long ſuffering, humility, and gentleneſſe, &c. and are not the children of God in theſe things manifeſt? and are not the children of the diuel, (in the other ground bringing forth other fruit of the curſe) alſo manifeſt? But if you will not hear, nor lay theſe things to heart, and give over ſiſt- ing, oppreſſing, and grieving my dear children, and tender babes that cry unto me night and day, and give glory to my great and dreadful name, by returning from the evil that is in your hands, I will deſtroy you and your ſeed from off the face of the whole earth, & blot out your name from under heaven, and your remembrance ſhall ſtink (and be a grief) to my choſen, yet ſhall they rejoyce over you, when the ſmoke of your torment ſhall aſcend up for ever and ever, ſaith the Lord God Almighty,

For thus ſaith the Lord God, theſe people whom you hate (and ſeek many waies to enſnare and take counſel together againſt, and abuſe and perſecute, and impriſon, whip, ſtone, revile and reproch by the name *QUAKERS*, who abide faithfull to my ſon the ſight of the world, that lighteth every man that cometh into the world; they are dear unto me, my choſen, my dear children, my beloved ones, and he that toucheth them, toucheth the apple of mine eye, whoſe cry is entred into my ears, and my pity is towards them, and my bowels are moved for them, for whoſe ſake I will reprove Kings, and kingdomes ſhall be overthrowen that riſe up againſt them, and every tongue that riſe up in judgement againſt them, will I condemne; for I the Lord ſearch the heart, and try the reins, and will reward every man according to his deeds.

Therefore conſider theſe things, ye proud and ſcornfull men, who are of the birth born after the fleſh, perſecuting the birth of the ſpirit, being moved with envy & wrath (which is of the Diuel) againſt an innocent people, whom the Lord God will preſerve and deſt, though out of your ſight, whom the God of this world hath blinded, and all you falſe teachers, deceitfull workers, who uſe your tongues both to pray and alſo to lye, flander, and revile; whoſe hearts are exerciſed in covetous practiſes, and yet ſometime (for a cloke) will ſpeak againſt it, as if one fountain can yield ſalt water and freſh, but your ſhirts are diſcovered upon your face, and you ſhall be made manifeſt to them that yet ſee you not; and ſhall be a by word to nations, ye proud prophane hirelings, ye treacherous prieſts of *England*, from you prophaneſſe is gone forth into all the land, who by your lyes and by your lightneſſe hath cauſed many to erre, the Lord God will root you out without hand, and the very favour of your root ſhall become loathſome to the earth, (which is weary to bare you) and your foundation ſhall be utterly ſwept away, and no place for it ſhall be found, for you have been founded upon (and upheld by) the beaſtly nature and ſeed of enmity, within and without, of which now the Lord God of endleſſe ſtrength, is making an utter end, and none ſhall be able to deliver out of his hand, therefore is a cry heard among you, to the hills and to the mountains of the earth, to hide and cover you from the wrath of the lamb, againſt whom you make war, (who is the light of the world and your condemnation whoſe deeds are evil) But the mountains ſhall be overturn'd with the fierce indignation of the Lord, and caſt into the ſea of con- fuſion and torment with you, who ſtrive to hide you from the day that makes manifeſt, and from the ſtroke of his righteous judgements, and the fury of the Lord God Almighty will ſweep the land of evil doers, and no place ſhall be found for the worker of iniquity, but ſhame and confuſion of faces ſhall come upon you, and you ſhall gnaw your tongues for pain, and ſhall curſe your God and your King, for a dreadful and bitter day is coming upon you all, who are in the enmity againſt the meek ſpirit (in *Cain's* nature) va- gabond from God in the earth where your names are writen, and not in the Lambs book of life that was ſlain from the foundation of the world, (the foundation of tranſ- greſſion

gression) when any, that have an ear to hear, for he shall reign and get the victory, that was dead and is alive for evermore, and hath the key of David, and shall overcome and have the dominion, and rule and authority over all the kingdomes of men: O ye foolish and without understanding, have ye not read, that the lamb that was slain is worthy to receive power, riches, wisdom, strength, honour, glory and blessing, and that he shall prevail though ten Kings make war with him; consider this ye that strive with your maker, by whom you will be broken in pieces like a potters vessel, and was it not the Dragon (which is cast out of heaven) that makes war with the lamb, and was it not the Divil which had great wrath, when he saw he had but a short time, and was it not the great red Dragon, the old serpent, that made war with the woman, and the remnant of her seed, who kept the Commandements of God, and had the testimony of Jesus, these are them, the divel, the serpent, and his seed makes war against, against them that keep the commands of God, and have the testimony of Jesus, who faith believe in the light, and how can ye believe which receive honour one of another, and faith swear not at all, and they shall hale you out of their Synagogues and bring you before rulers and governours for my namesake, and this shall turn to you for a testimony, (mark) for his sake that faith, swear not at all for his namesake, that respecteth not the person of any man, for his namesake that faith, how can ye believe, that receive honour one of another, for his namesake that testifieth against the works of the world that are evil, haled out of the Synagogues, brought before rulers, persecuted and despitefully used for his sake, for keeping his commandements, and bearing his testimony against whom the serpent and his seed makes war, hear's the testimony, but the woman that brings forth the man child, (against whom the dragon cast out his floods of reproch and persecution)

18 hid from the face of the serpent, glory to the Lord for ever.

And is not the lamb, the light of the holy city, where the dogs that bite and the unclean devouring beasts shall not enter, but are shut out, and all lyers, and unbelieving, who believe not in the light of the world, in the lamb of God that taketh away the sin, whose Kingdome and glory is hid from the wise and prudent of the world, whose face to them is marred, and his forme more then the sons of men, who know not the bride the lambs wife, for the glory of the kings daughter is within, and not of the visible world, therefore the world knoweth her not, and the Princes of this world never knew the Lord of glory, who lighteth every man that cometh into the world: hearken ye bitter spirits, ye hasty, rash, and high minded men, whose wrath and pride blinds your understandings that you cannot perceive the invisible and eternal things of God, but are tossed in the sea of confusion, and darkness and cannot rest; consider these things, are not we whom you hate and persecute, and make a great stir and noise about, as a city set on a hill which cannot be hid, and unknown to you, yea verily we are, and are not we whom you grievously afflict without cause, as the light of the world, and the salt of the earth now, and can you endure the favour of them that fear the living God, and worship him in the spirit and in the truth amongst you, are you not like the horse that smells the battel afar off, and rageth when he hears the sound of a trumpet: but the trumpet of the Lord God is sounded out of *Sion*, and you shall tremble, and your whole foundation shall be shaken, the Lord hath spoken it.

Come let us try you, ye that cry peace, and cry for peace, can you endure to be tried by the light of the son of God, who seek not honour from men, but is meek and without guile, and faith swear not at all, and faith, I came not to send peace on earth but a sword; come how do you feel his life and words, that respecteth not the person of any man, and denies the glory of the world, and testifieth against the evil thereof without respect of persons, whether in rulers, priests or people, and faith how can you believe that receive

honour

peace to your life; and do you favour them well as a joy to you, or are they as a sword in your bowels; and cuts you to the heart as *Stephen* did, when he spake to the Council, Scribes, Priests and Elders, and people who gnashed on him with their teeth; and stoned him for the testimony of *Jesus*, come try your peace whether it be in the earth, upon which the sword is to come, or whether he is your peace that brings the sword upon the earth, who seeks not honour from men, who is the condemnation of them whose deeds are evil. And see if you can endure the salting with fire, and the day of trial and the hour of temptation that will come upon all them that dwell on the earth to try them, and do you not dwell on the earth, who are seeking earthly honour and imprisoning for it, and will not the sword of Gods righteous judgements come upon you for these things, see how you exceed your father, who did but tempt, and not imprison the son of God, when he would not bow down nor worship him, think on this and tremble, ye seed of evil doers, and consider your vvaies and the vvhole course of your life, and the end thereof, and see if you can dyvell vvith devouring fire, and vvith the everlasting burnings, for a fire the Lord God of our life is kindling among you, and the thickers of the Forrest and the ravenous beasts, and the false Prophets shall be consumed by it, and the day is at hand, that a sword shall be upon your right arme, and it shall be dried up, and your right eye shall be utterly darkned, and you shall look for light but behold darkness, and dimness and blindness, and anguish and vexation of spirit, with bitter lamentation, and for a comforter, but there will be none because you have despised reproof, and did not choose the fear of the Lord, but have said in your hearts: there is no God, and what Lord shall controule us, therefore Gods righteous witness (the light in your consciences, which makes manifest the hidden things of dishonesty) will judge and condemne you for all your ungodly deeds and hard speeches, that you ungodly have committed, and spoken against him and his dear children, and that is nigh you which will tell the matter, and he that seeth in secret will reward you openly, according to the works of your hands, and will let you see all that ever you have acted, in vvhole living pover and life I novv vvish you to consider your vvaies, and repent vvhile you have yet time, and prise this your visitation, lest it stand a dreadful vvitness for the Lord God against you, and the thing that belong to your eternal peace, be for ever hid from your eyes, and your house left unto you desolate.

This is a warning from the spirit of the living God in his servant, who suffers (in the spirit of meekness) for his precious truths sake who desires not the death of a sinner, but rather that he might turn from his wickedness and live, and am in the last house of correction at *Winchester*, where I have freely given up my life in the will of my God, if it be to the finishing my testimony against a sinful and adulterous generation, to which prison I was sent as a wanderer from the town in which I was born, and (and which is in the same county) and have been kept neer 12. months because I cannot promise to go home, against whom no evil or breach of law hath been charged, though too Assises and four Sessions have past in the time of my imprisonment, and who him of the world called,

William Bayley.

William Bayley was born at Winchester, Hampshire, in 1641, and was educated at Winchester School. He was a member of the Society of Friends, and was imprisoned in Winchester Prison for his religious beliefs. He was released in 1661, and lived for some time in London. He was a writer of religious tracts, and was a member of the Quaker Yearly Meeting. He died in 1691.

A voice and visitation of God to the Inhabitants of the Isle of Wight.

THe Lord God Almighty of heaven and earth (who is the God of *Abraham*, of *Isaac*, and of *Jacob*) is risen with his eternal dreadful power, to gather and to scatter, and no people powers or nations shall be able to stop his way, for he in whose presence all the nations of the earth, are but as a drop of a bucket, is risen as a Giant to the battle, and he who maketh war in righteousness is gone forth conquering and to conquer, out of whose mouth goeth a sharp two edged sword, with which he will slay the wicked, and cut the heathen, that rage asunder, for the Lord God of life and terrible Majesty, is now risen to judge for the meek of the earth, and to plead the cause of the poor, against him that is too strong for him, and is now making inquisition for blood, and he remembereth the cry of the humble, for the year of his redeemed is come, and the day of vengeance is in his heart, he proclaimeth liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison doors to them that are bound, who hears the groanings of his precious seed, and for its sake is come down to deliver.

Therefore woe, thick darkness and dreadful plagues vwill come upon *Pharaoh* and all his host, vvho oppresseth the righteous seed (the boin of God) in the land of your darkness and house of bondage; for the Prophet of the Lord God like unto *Moses* (vvho setteth before man good and evil, life and death, the blessing and the curse) vvvhich God hath raised up in the midst of his brethren vvvhich all are to hear, he is novv trying *Pharaoh*, or the sons and daughters of men vvho are hardned, from his fear, vvho loves the darkness rather then the light because their deeds are evil, and refuseth to let that go vvvhich groaneth, and doth sigh and cry for deliverance, and hungers and thirsts after righteousness, vvvhich being desolate and trodden under foot in many, it mourneth unto him, and the cry of it is entred into the ears of the Lord God of rest, and this is the seed vvvhich the Lord is gathering into his gardner, of eternal dominion and peace, and all the chaffe vvvhich about it oppresseth (though in a profession without the life and power of the seed) will the Lord God consume with the unquenchable fire.

Therefore take heed, and be you warned of the Lord God of heaven, all ye rulers, governors and people of the earth, and all you of this isle, and whom the Lord God Almighty hath moved many of his dear servants in the dreadful pure power of his might, and in the bowels of love to visit your souls: I say take heed of driving to hinder this the great mighty and powerful work of Gods love amongst the Children of men, as you will answer it before the throne of God and of the Lamb, who is the light of the world, and lighteth every man that cometh into the world, to whom all judgement and power is committed, who is now come to judge the world in righteousness and the people with his truth, and he must reign till all his enemies are brought under his feet, the Lord God of everlasting strength hath spoken it for he is now coming in ten thousands of his saints to convince all that are ungodly among you of their ungodly deeds, which they have ungodly committed, and of all their hard speeches, which ungodly sinners have spoken against him, who is the true light, that lighteth every man that cometh into the world, who upon them will execute the judgment written, for now is the Lord of life fulfilling his promise, which he hath spoken by his former Prophets, that in the last dayes the mountain of the Lords house shall be established upon the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and many people shall flow unto it, and shall goe and say, come ye and let us go up unto the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of *Jacob*, and he will teach us his waies, and we will walk in his paths, and let us walk in the light of the Lord; so that the head stone (the mountain of the Lords house (which the wise master-builders have rejected and refused, (who is the light of the world the

eternal wisdom and power of God) is he that shall be upon the top of the high mountains, of pride, envy and ambition, and exalting above your lofty hills of oppression and rage, and he that (who is the light) shall be upon every one that is proud, and upon every one that is lifted up, and he shall be brought low, and the Lord God alone shall be exalted on that day; for the decree is gone forth, and the consuming fire is kindled among the thickets of the forest, and his eternal love is streaming forth toward the meek in the earth; and against this his mighty and powerful work, the gates of hell, and all the tuition of the darkness of this world, shall never prevail, the eternal Lord God of heaven and earth hath spoken it, Therefore in vain do all the postheards of the earth strive vvith their maker, and they that resisteth, resisteth not man, but God, (who is the higher power that lighteth every man that cometh into the world) and such receives to themselves damnation, for to him we are subject who rides meekly upon the foal of an ass, the wild asses colt, (he that readeth let him understand) and he is our peace, in whose mouth is found no guile, therefore let none be high minded but fear; for thou o man (who art lifted up above the Stem of Jesse, and the off-spring of David,) bearest not the root but the root thee, therefore thou art to fear and dread the presence of the living God; and depart from evil, and this is the beginning of the eternal wisdom (which is justified of her children) which is from above, pure, peaceable meek, gentle sober, and easie to be intreated, whose voice is to you (in the power of its love) ye people of this Island; and this will lead you if you embrace it, into its own paths which is eternal peace, and this leads out of rashness, crookedness and perverseness, and out of headiness and high mindedness, and out of all the lusts and pleasures of sin, which are but for a season, and this brings to be just merciful and tender hearted, and to speak truth every man to his neighbour, and this will lead to entertain strangers, when by it you come to see your selves have been strangers to the life of God, (which is holy just and righteous and full of good) and this will let you soldiers see that you ought not to do violence, or accuse any man falsely, and that you ought to live soberly and righteously in this present world: for all men shall know that the Captain of our salvation (vvhich vvvas made perfect through sufferings, vvho is the true light that is gone forth conquering and to conquer vvith his eternal arme of power) that he is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, and must reign over the world, and all its enmity and haughty powers of darkness, (vvhich is but as a vapour) for by him the vvorld vvvas made, and he is the heir that is now come to take peace from the earth, and to call and gather into his Vineyard of eternal life, and those that are vvilling and obedient shall eat the good of the land, but those that refuse and rebel shall be devoured vvith his sword, the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

This the Lord of life vvvas I moved in this Island to speak forth as a visitation and warning from him, unto you the inhabitants thereof, both governours, soldiers, priests and people, on the 8th. of the 11th. month, 18. By me vvho am a servant of the living God of Abraham, called Will. Bayly.

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